

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 1-21, 24, 38-40, 54 and 58 have been canceled and claim 67 has been amended. Claims 25, 26, 28-35, 52, 53, 55-57, 59-67 remain pending.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1, 11, 19 and 38 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Applicant has canceled claims 1, 11, 19 and 38 without prejudice and submits that the section 112 rejection is moot.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-5, 7-16, 18, 19, 20, 24, 38, 39, 54 and 58 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,167,484 to Boyer et al. ("Boyer").

Applicant has canceled claims 1-5, 7-16, 18, 19, 20, 24, 38, 39, 54 and 58 without prejudice and submits that the section 102 rejection is moot.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 6, 17, 21 and 40 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boyer in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,265,231 to Nuwayser.

Applicant has canceled claims 6, 17, 21 and 40 without prejudice and submits that the section 103 rejection is moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant acknowledges the allowance of claims 25, 26, 28-35, 52, 53, 55-57 and 59-67.

Claim Amendment

Applicant has amended claim 67 for antecedent basis reasons. No new matter has been added.

Conclusion


Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. If a telephone interview would be helpful in any way, the examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Authorization is hereby given to charge deposit account 501914 for any fee due in connection with this submission.

Respectfully submitted,

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